

REVISED

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29568 / H0640

This legislation creates a Dig Once Policy and encourages the installation of broadband across Idaho. Essentially, the Dig Once Policy states that when the Idaho Department of Transportation does a highway project, it shall consider whether it would be appropriate to include the installation of broadband infrastructure during the construction. It encourages more broadband in Idaho because it reduces the cost of digging and installation for broadband providers. Dig Once also creates efficiency. It helps to minimize the amount of times a road is opened up again and again. Finally, the legislation allows broadband providers the use of state rights-of-way for broadband infrastructure. In return, broadband providers must allow the Idaho Transportation Department to use the broadband infrastructure for public safety warnings, road condition notifications and amber alerts to motorists on state highways, if the Department chooses, in addition to other requirements.

FISCAL NOTE

Broadband providers are responsible for their own costs for installing their broadband infrastructure. There is no fiscal impact to state funds unless the Idaho Transportation Department chooses to place conduit along its rights-of-way. If the Idaho Transportation Department chooses to have its own conduit, then digging and labor costs depend on the size and type of the project. With respect to the conduit itself, it is estimated that typical conduit for broadband use is approximately \$5,000 a mile.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).